4: Oberg E-5 (1949)1953
SP17 Nambicuara SP17

000 old Paressí Indian village site on the west bank of the Papagaio. It is a division point in the telegraph line, and besides the telegraph operator there is a section boss and a number of Paressí Indian linemen. As the Nambicuara take whatever wire they feel they need, the linemen are kept busy repairing the line. There are 12 houses in the settlement proper with the buildings of the Protestant Mission forming one end of the town and the buildings of the Jesuit Mission forming the other.

● [316]

The line boss, who is also the mayor of the town, gave Kaoro and me a two-room mud-and-wattle house as our quarters. Our meals we took with the two American missionary families. The Catholic Mission was under the charge of Father Roberto, a Frenchman, and Father João, an Austrian. In addition, there were three sisters in charge of a school. The priests had developed extensive fields of manioc and rice, irrigating the fields by diverting water from the river. They had also set up an electric-light plant, using water as a source of power. There are tremendous possibilities for power development, for Utiarity Falls, situated some half a mile distant, has a drop of about 240 feet. Unfortunately this power resource is located in a practically uninhabited, semiarid region.

797 484 The Rev. L. W. Buckman, who has been in the area since 1941, kindly consented to prepare a pack train, using the mission oxen and mules, to go in search of the nearest band of Nambicuara. On the third day after our arrival when our preparations were well along, however, a band of Nambicuara came to Utiarity. In fact they were able to get a ride on João Tapuya's trucks as he was returning from Burity, the end of the truck road. This was Julio's band of some 18 people known by the Nambicuara as the Waklítisu. Their purpose was to bring one of their men who had running syphilis sores to the Jesuit Mission for treatment. This changed our plans, for we now had one of the four Eastern Nambiucara bands in camp, which would give us plenty to do for the limited period of our visit. Also during the first 000 week, Father João returned from the Iranxe village, bringing five men, and offered to assist us in gathering whatever information we could get from them. This we found to be very difficult, as the Iranxe spoke no Portuguese and the mis-

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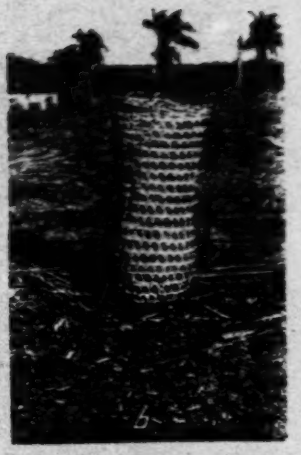

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PLATE 4.—Nambicuara women.—a, Carrying netting for. b, Nambicuara basket basket. c and d, Nambicuara girl with necklaces and painted designs in preparation for puberty ceremony. (By courtesy of Rev. L. Bandeira.)

[p. 136 (I)]

7:Roquette-Pinto--38B E-4,5 (no date)1938 SP17 Nambicuara SP17
(ca. 1912)

[opp. p. 248]

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Cocozu Nambicuara

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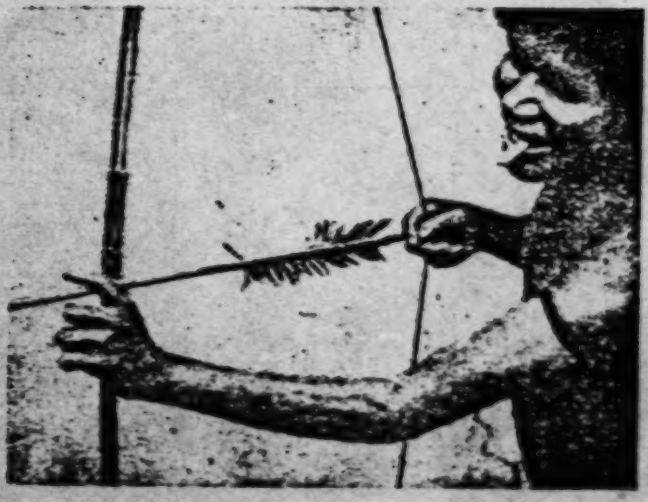

Nambicuara Indian stringing his bow.